124. Disabilities of Pulayas in the matter of education.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) submitted the following:—

(1) The Pulaya boys should be given admission to all schools till the Seventh class, full fees should be remitted and at least ten per cent of them should be awarded scholarships.

(2) An institution should be established in the chief Pulaya centre for teaching Agriculture and Industries to Pulaya boys. That must be done at least as a temporary measure for some time.

(3) Though Government had thrown open a large number of schools to Pulayas, admission was not being freely given in them. The Government order should, therefore, be enforced rigorously.

(4) A line of huts should be built for them in Venganur or other central locality, together with a school for primary education, provision being made for noon-day meal. Vocational training should also be given.

(5) A separate amount should be ear-marked for the education of Pulayas in the State budget.

(6) A Co-operative society should be established for Pulayas.

Dewans' reply.—Noted.

125. Disabilities of converts from depressed classes to Christianity in the matter of education.

Mr. Abraham Isaac (Member, Nominated) submitted that Pulaya converts were unable to withstand the petty persecutions and hardships they were being subjected to in the matter of admission to schools in Central Travancore. He also regretted the small number of scholarships awarded to the boys of his community. The Member then suggested the following measures being adopted:—

(1) The boys of his community passing from Class IV and continuing their studies afterwards should be given pecuniary help for buying books, remission of full fees and also a free noon-day meal.

(2) Ten per cent of them should be awarded scholarships.

(3) The few boys who were studying in the English schools should be given sufficient encouragement to prosecute their studies.

(4) Female education among the community should be promoted with greater vigour.

(5) Technical instruction should be more largely given to members of his community.

(6) They should be allowed the free use of the timber standing on the *poramboke* land, called Panjoorkulam, near their Technical School at Chingavanam in the Nattakam Proverthi, Kottayam taluk, so that they might utilize it for their school. Similar help should also be given to another institution started by them in February 1917 at Kuthrappalli in the Changanacherry taluk where Wood work and Iron Work were being taught.

(7) The Police in the vicinity of those two Technical institutions should be ordered to help the Managers from the petty persecutions of the neighbours.

(8) The few English-educated young men of the community should be given Government employment.

(9) They should be allowed to use freely all public places such as landing ghats, ferries, roads, &c.

(10) Orders should be issued for the appointment of the qualified young men of this community in all departments of the State.

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The Member also submitted a memorial signed by a large number of members of his community in regard to their disabilities.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

126. Establishment of a Special School for Malayala Brahmins with free Boarding house at Kumaranallur.

Mr. Narayanan Tuppan Numburi (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) said that, as a result of repeated efforts made by the Jenmis, the Special School at Kumaranallur was started and that, since the institution collapsed more than once for want of a Boarding House, a Hostel was established. The Hostel was now being maintained by one or two influential members of the community. Such an arrangement did not ensure the permanency of the institution which had at present more than 90 boys and which was attracting more students. The Member, therefore, requested that the amount spent for the following purposes be diverted towards the maintenance of the Boarding Institution at Kumaranallur.

(1) The amount at present given for the Vedic classes at Kaviyur.

(2) The Charitable Endowments in the enjoyment of the trustees referred to by the Member at the 13th session of the Assembly.

(3) The properties set apart for charity among the Numburi Brahmins.

The Member explained that, in regard to the second item, an enquiry was conducted by the Tahsildar of Ettumanur who insisted on the production of documentary evidence to prove that the endowments complained of as being misused and misappropriated were intended to advance education among Numburis. It was not possible to produce documentary evidence at this distance of time. The Member suggested that an independent enquiry might be made conjointly by an officer and another person well acquainted with the history and other particulars connected with the endowments. In case it was not possible to have the Hostel maintained out of the endowments, it should be managed by Government. In conclusion, the Member prayed that his request be complied with. He also asked for another Lower Grade English school with facilities for the teaching of the Vedas as in Kunnathur from the commencement of the next school year.

In reply to Dewan's queries, the Member said that Rs. 500 was being given for the Vedic class in Kaviyur, that no boys were studying in it and no teacher appointed to teach, that 2 or 3 students used to be presented as receiving instruction whenever the Inspector went there and that the whole amount was being utilized by some of the guardians of the students. The Member also requested that a more effective supervision be exercised wherever money grants were given for Vedic classes or other charitable purposes of the Numburis.

Dewan's reply.— An enquiry will be made through the Peishkar in regard to the Kaviyur funds. The other request of the Member will be considered.

127. Educational grievances of the Kaniyar community.

Mr. N. Padmanabhan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) said that his prayers were the following:—

(1) that the pupils of the Kaniyar community above the fifth class in Vernacular schools and all the pupils in the English schools should be exempted from payment of fees altogether or they should be allowed at least half-fee concessions.

(2) that Kaniyar pupils above the fifth class in Vernacular schools should be awarded scholarships and enabled to study English.

(3) that Kaniyars well-versed in Malayalam and Sanskrit should be appointed Munshis in Vernacular and English schools.

(4) that a Sanskrit College should be established in Central Travancoré, preferably at Mavelikara, in which all classes of pupils including the Kaniyars should be admitted.

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